

THE GARZETTE

W4GR

Volume 17, Issue 05

147.075+

444.525+5mhz

53.110 -1mhz

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From the Presidents Mic!



QST! QST! de **WA4ZXV, Norm Schklar**

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FIELD DAY 2008 June 28 and 29 Seems like just the other day I was driving home from Rhodes-Jordan park trying to keep my eyes open until I could find the shower and bed. David (KA4KKF) is well on the way to having the event planned out and marching orders in place. For any of you that don't know, Field Day is an annual event where we go out to the field and simulate operating without commercial power and in an outdoors environment. We'll set up several antennas, several stations, and have supplies on hand to operate and feed everyone for the 30 hours or so we're out there. The contest starts about 2:00 pm on Saturday. During the weekend we'll talk to hundreds of Amateur Radio operators in most every state and some foreign countries. We have a lot of fun at Field Day, but we're also sharpening our skills for the possibility we could be called out for a disaster. Much more information is available on the web site, www.gars.org.

Hamvention 2008 May 16, 17 and 18 This is the largest gathering of Amateur Radio Operators in the US. You'll find new equipment, old equipment, junk and accessories. There will be several forums on related activities and you be able to say hello to about 20,000 of your closest friends. If you plan to attend, send a note to the GARS group on Yahoo (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS/>). We can try to meet and say hello while at the Hamvention.

Georgia QSO Party Several of us meet at the scout lodge near Rhodes-Jordan park. We had a nice setup and everything seems just fine. That is until we tried to make a few contacts. The noise level was so high, we just couldn't hear anything. We fought it until about 6:30 and went home. Thanks to everyone that helped get it together and those that came by to offer some moral support.

Build an antenna The next club meeting we will be building 2mtr or 6mtr antennas and making some final preparations for our wire antennas for Field Day. A list of materials for building you antenna is available on the yahoo group.

73 es hp to cu sn de Norm, WA4ZXV

MAY 2008

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----|-----|----------------------|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 0730 breakfast |
| 4 | 5 2000 2m net | 6 1930 meeting | 7 2100 6m net | 8 | 9 | 10 0730 breakfast |
| 11 | 12 2000 2m net | 13 | 14 2100 6m net | 15 | 16 | 17 0730 breakfast |
| 18 | 19 2000 2m net | 20 | 21 2100 6m net | 22 | 23 | 24 0730 breakfast |
| 25 | 26 2000 2m net | 27 | 28 2100 6m net | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| 1 | 2 2000 2m net | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

GARS Recurring Calendar

- Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM. Check the Web Site for Location.
- Every Monday at 8 PM local time: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2 meter repeater
- Every Wednesday at 9 PM local time: GARS 6 meter net on the GARS 6 meter repeater
- Every Saturday at 7:30 AM local time: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville

The GARZETTE

The GARZETTE is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word format or email to ka4kkf@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary. In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of *The GARZETTE* articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and to *The GARZETTE*.

The GARZETTE is published each month with the assistance of Hal Manning, who prints the news letter. Rick Patchin, KD4RFK does the final production work on *The GARZETTE* by folding & labeling. Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN, stamps and gets the end product to the Post Office each month. Norm Schklar, wa4zxv, manages email delivery. Many thanks to each of them and all article contributors.

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For any additional information contact:
Newsletter Editor:

David Adcock ka4kkf
(770-271-9398)
ka4kkf@arrl.net

All correspondence relating to articles posted in *The GARZETTE* or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048
Attn: Newsletter Editor

Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at www.arrl-ga.org

First Saturday, Even Months

9:00AM
EOC Building
Butch Nitz, AF4FS
(770) 968-8780

First Wednesday

7:00 PM
ARRL/VEC
Roberts School
4681 School Street,
Acworth
Jodi Escher AG4BK
770-387-1591

Second Tuesday

7:00PM
Walton EMC
3645 Lenora Church Rd,
Snellville
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA
(770) 498-7759

Second Saturday, Odd Months

ARRL VEC
8:30 AM
Stone Mountain Methodist
Church
5312 West Mountain St.
Stone Mountain
Bob Varone, W4ETN
(770) 978-3179

Third Saturday

CA VEC
9:00AM
Marietta First United
Methodist Church Room 305,
56 Whitlock Ave
Marietta
David Still, WB4RRD
(770) 973-2566

Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC
7:00 PM
United Way Service Center
6279 Fairburn Road,
Douglasville

Third Sunday

W5YI VEC
3:00 - 5:00 PM
Lawrenceville Masonic Lodge
465 South Perry Street
Lawrenceville, GA 30044
770-963-5721

Fourth Sunday

2:30 PM
Georgia Tech Student Center
Room 301
David Ziskind, KE4QLH
(404) 966-6864

Metro Atlanta Club Meetings**First Tuesday**

Kennehoochee ARC
Southern Polytechnic
State University
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM
Talk In 146.880(-)

Second Monday

Georgia Tech ARC
Room W218
Van Leer Electrical
Engineering Bldg.
Georgia Tech Campus
Meeting at 7:00 PM

First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club
Georgia Red Cross HQ
1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta
Meeting is at 7:30 PM
Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC

Commerce Public Library
Meeting is at 6:30 PM
Talk In - 147.225(+)
PL 123.0

Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club
Annistown Road Baptist Church
Intersection of Annistown Rd
& Spain Rd
Stone Mountain
Dinner at 6:00 PM
Meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 146.760(-)

Third Tuesday

**North Fulton Amateur Radio
League**
Alpharetta EOC located at
2970 Webb Bridge Road, in Alpharetta
meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 145.47(-)

First Saturday

North GA QRP Club
Wieuca Baptist Church on
Peachtree Rd/Wieuca, 10 AM

April, 2008 GARS General Meeting

April 8, 2008

The president, Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV, called the meeting to order at 7:30.

First time visitors were recognized then others present introduced themselves.

Norm announced that the club would participate in the Georgia QSO party this Saturday with a station at the scout building in Rhodes Jordan Park – all are welcome.

Announcements:

1. Steve Back, WB2OGY, has Venture Crew 73 Scout Blast tickets for \$10 offering discounts at many locations throughout the county.
2. Earl Whatley, AF4FG, announced that the club was again assisting with the Dacula Memorial Day parade.
3. The Strange Antenna Challenge is scheduled for Memorial Day weekend.
4. The GARS GLASS (GARS Local Area Six meter Sideband net) Net will meet on May 29 on 50.145.
5. Next month's program will be the hands-on building of antennas – parts list will be distributed via The Reflector.
6. Field Day is June 28-29 – sign up for band managers. There will be a number of stations set up, operating opportunities, and good food.
7. Norm announced that the third position on the GARS board of directors has been filled with the appointment of Dave Bruse, W4DTR.
8. Joel Barrett, W4JOL, net manager announced that there are openings for net control on Monday and Wednesday nights. Contact him at jobarrett@cisco.com.
9. Susan Swiderski, AF4FO, the Georgia Section Manager for the ARRL presented the Best QST Article Award to Larry Schell – congratulations Larry!

Mike Swiderski, K4HBI, gave a program on the ARRL Official Observer program.

Break

The Elmer Program was discussed and forms for signing up as an Elmer were distributed.

Ken Dalton, KI4BQS, gave a program on FEMA training required for full ARES participation.

Committee Reports:

1. The program for May will be on antennas.
2. There were no new members.
3. Eddie Foust, WD4JEM, repeater manager gave a report.
4. Treasurer's report – account balance of \$12,833.

There was no old or new business.

Norm announced that Johnny Fearon, W4WKP, has injured his leg – the club has sent him a get well card. If anyone knows of any member that is under the weather send a notice to the GARS reflector.

Prize drawing was held.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05.

Prepared by Randy Collins, N4COR, secretary

Hands on antenna building session May 13th by Kyle W4KDA

The May 13th GARS meeting is about building simple antennas, and you are invited to build your own antenna right at the meeting! There will be two types of antennas being built at the meeting: Wire Dipoles and Copper J Poles.

David Adcock KA4KKF will be constructing wire dipoles as a demonstration which will be used later for the GARS field day station.

Will Perkins W1ZRV will be demonstrating and constructing a J pole.

If you are new, a copper J Pole is a great first antenna to build, and if are an experienced ham, this is a great place to learn how to solder copper pipe so you can Elmer new hams.

----- Wire Antennas -----

We will have a wire length counter (like at the store where you buy wire) on hand to measure wire lengths if you want to use it to make your own wire antenna(s). This is helpful if you are building low band antennas that are sometimes hundreds of feet long. We can also measure coax up to 0.500" with the wire counter.

----- J Poles -----

*** Bring the construction materials listed below and build YOUR VERY OWN J Pole during the session! ***

PLEASE RSVP to w4kda@arrl.net if you plan to build your own J Pole at the meeting.

If you are not familiar with J poles, they are copper pipe vertical antennas that do not need a ground planes, are typically used for VHF and UHF, have a slight amount of gain, and are omni directional. A typical VHF J Pole takes about an hour to build.

For experienced hams who know how to solder copper pipe and/or have the tools to do it with, please bring them with you to the meeting. We can use extra teachers on hand to give one-on-one guidance during the session.

We will have antenna analyzers on hand to test your antenna before you leave.

NOTE: SO-239 chassis mount connectors like this: <http://www.mpja.com/images/0501.jpg> will be providing for your J Pole for a nominal fee (about \$2) at the meeting.

2m MATERIALS LIST:

- 1, 10' piece of 1/2" Type L (Blue), thick wall copper pipe
- 1, 1/2" copper Tee
- 1, 1/2" 90 degree elbow
- 2, 1/2" copper caps
- 1' of 12 or 14 gauge (12 preferred) solid copper wire (jacketed or bare)
- RG-8X of the length you need to get from your shack to the antenna plus a few feet (better to over estimate)
- 6 zip ties recommended, but not required

For those of you who want to get on 6 meters (remember, we have the GLASS Net coming up May 29th), we will have some 6 meter J poles on display that can be measured as templates. Two meters is what will be demonstrated, but the principles are the same, so we can help you build a 6m J Pole during the session if that is what you need.

6m MATERIAL LIST:

- 2, 10' pieces of 3/4" Type L (Blue), thick wall copper pipe
- 1, 3/4" copper Tee
- 1, 3/4" 90 degree elbow
- 2, 3/4" copper caps
- 1' of 12 or 14 gauge (12 preferred) solid copper wire (jacketed or bare)
- 1, 6"x 2+" x 1/4" piece of plastic for support
- 4 #8 Self tapping screws (stainless steel preferred)
- RG-8X of the length you need to get from your shack to the antenna plus a few feet (better to over estimate)
- 6 zip ties recommended, but not required

If you plan to construct a 6m J Pole, plan to bring a truck and something to strap your new antenna down with. They are about 15' long when completed.

I checked the prices of copper at a Home Depot yesterday (04/16/08), and currently it should cost you less than \$40 to build a 2m J Pole. Because of the larger materials, a 6m J Pole is more expensive, but will cost less than \$60.

Please post any questions to the reflector or e-mail w4kda@arrl.net.

GLASS Net 6 Meter SSB Event

by
Kyle W4KDA

For the second time, we are going to run the GARS Local Area Sixmeter Sideband (GLASS) Net. It is a rare six meter experimental net. It will have at least four net control stations and the goal will be to check in and give signal reports to as many stations as possible during the drill. In some ways, this exercise will run more like a contest than the typical 2m nets most folks are used to.

Net Control

Net control stations will give signal reports, and encourage check in by relay. The net control stations will be spread out around Gwinnett. We will be running both vertical and horizontal polarization net control

stations with both omni-directional and directional antennas. Even if you think you are too far away, even if you think your antenna is too low, even if you think you do not have enough power, we would ask that you try to make contact with us during this rare event.

EMCOMM

The first GLASS Net was a lot of fun, but we also learned something very interesting. We learned that on six meters single sideband, there was no place in Gwinnett County that we could not communicate effectively with. This has great usefulness because in a communications emergency it is possible or even likely, that repeaters, telephones, and the Internet can be down sporadically to completely in the local area.

FUN

If we forget about EMCOMM and nets, six meters is just an all around fun band. We are at the beginning of solar cycle 24, and *even now* we see band openings and double hops across North America. If you don't have six, you are missing a lot of fun. If you have a rig, but don't have an antenna, they are easy to build, and are a manageable size.

Remember to mark your calendars, cut your antennas, and test your rigs. Here is where and when you can join us for another great installment of this rare event:

May 29th, 2008
8:00PM Local Time and continues until finished
50.145 USB
Vertical or Horizontal

Please send any questions to w4kda@arrl.net.

Do you know a boy or girl
14 to 21 years old
who wants to:

Climb, Hike
Canoe, Camp
Talk on an amateur radio
Have Fun
Tell them about

Venture Crew 73

**We meet the second Tuesday
of each Month at 7:00PM
prior to the GARS meeting at
St. Marguerite D'Youville
Church..**

For more information Visit
www.gars.org/crew73
or contact Ray Back:

Email crew73@gars.org
Phone (770) 295-9174

GARS Communication System

70 Cm Repeater

444.525(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone

APRS

144.390 -- 1200 Baud
W4GR

6 Meter Repeater

53.110 (-1 MHz)
82.5 PL Tone

D-Star

2 Meter Repeater

147.075(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone

Main Repeater Site

Oak Street, Lawrenceville

Backup Repeater Site

Lanier Mountain, Snellville

Remote Receive Sites

Bogan Road, Buford

Goshen Springs Road,
Norcross

Lanier Mountain, Snellville

Net Needs Net Control Operators!

If you would like to be net control and learn how to operate the net, contact Joel, W4JOL. We are looking for 2m and 6 m net control operators to fill in the empty spaces in the rotation.

jobarret@cisco.com

STATION LOCATOR SERVICE NEW FOR FIELD DAY 2008

This year, for the first time, the ARRL has put together a Station Locator to help amateurs or those interested in Amateur Radio find a Field Day site near them. According to ARRL Field Day Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, many amateurs have been asking for something like this for many years.

If your group would like to be a part of the Station Locator Service, it's easy to get started. Just go to the Field Day Station Locator Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/locator.php>> and follow the instructions.

To help you out, Henderson has prepared a FAQ for the Field Day Station Locator.

GARS

APPAREL ORDER FORM

NAME: _____ PHONE # _____

CALL: _____

NAME TO BE EMBROIDERED: _____

CALL SIGN TO BE EMBROIDERED: _____

| ITEM | SIZE | QUANTITY | PRICE | TOTAL |
|--|------|----------|---------|-------|
| T-SHIRT | | | | |
| Red WITHOUT name & call | | | \$20.00 | |
| White WITHOUT name & call | | | \$20.00 | |
| Red WITH name & call | | | \$20.00 | |
| White WITH name & call | | | \$20.00 | |
| GOLF SHIRT -- WITHOUT name & call | | | | |
| Red | | | \$24.00 | |
| White | | | \$24.00 | |
| GOLF SHIRT -- WITH name & call | | | | |
| Red | | | \$28.00 | |
| White | | | \$28.00 | |
| SWEATSHIRT | | | | |
| Red WITHOUT name & call | | | \$30.00 | |
| White WITHOUT name & call | | | \$30.00 | |
| Red WITH name & call | | | \$30.00 | |
| White WITH name & call | | | \$30.00 | |
| LIGHTWEIGHT JACKET -- RED ONLY | | | | |
| WITHOUT name & call | | | \$31.00 | |
| WITH name & call | | | \$35.00 | |
| HEAVYWEIGHT JACKET -- RED ONLY | | | | |
| WITHOUT name & call | | | \$41.00 | |
| WITH name & call | | | \$45.00 | |
| GARS BADGE -- WITH name & call | | | \$9.00 | |
| HAT -- WITHOUT name & call | | | | |
| Red | | | \$9.00 | |
| White | | | \$9.00 | |
| HAT -- WITH name & call | | | | |
| Red | | | \$14.00 | |
| White | | | \$14.00 | |

TOTAL ORDER PRICE: _____

Please attach your check made payable to GARS and return to Dick Sandberg, N9SXJ or mail to:

GARS
P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, Georgia 30048

NOTE: Please allow at least 4 weeks for delivery of items. Some items may need to be special ordered.

Thanks and 73s! -- Dick N9SXJ

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

RENEWAL

Applicant Signature _____ **Date** / /

GARS Appreciates these fine sponsors that support our great organization!

GWINNETT COLLISION CENTER, INC.

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Suwanee, Georgia 30024
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Manager
KJ4VO

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770-263-0700 1-800-444-7927
Fax 770-263-9548

Mark KJ4VO

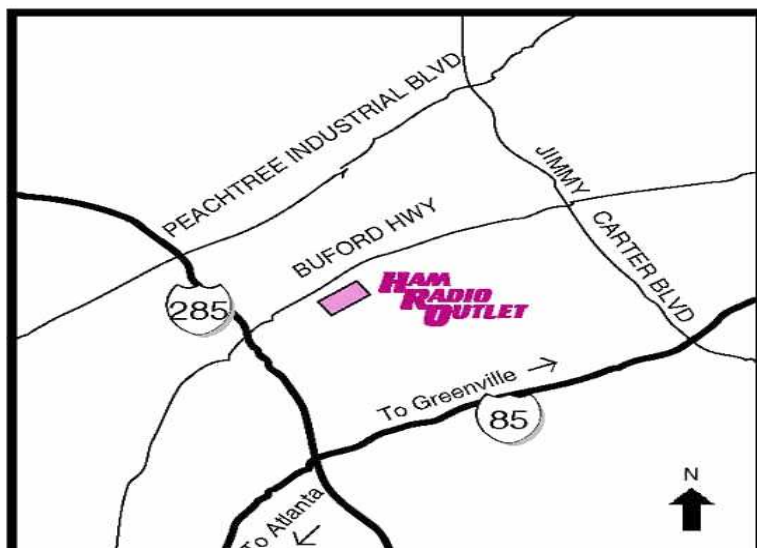
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Van Gorden

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048



To receive the **Garzette** via e mail contact, please contact the membership chairman

Saturday Morning

Breakfast

Join us at the Golden Coral
on Riverside Drive in

Lawrenceville at 7:30 a.m.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, May 13th

The Meetings are on the
Second Tuesday of the
month 7:30pm at the
St Marguerite
D'Youville Church,

85 Gloster Rd NW,

Lawrenceville, GA 30044.
Just off Highway 29 SW
of Lawrenceville.

Directions on the Web
site.

<http://www.gars.org>

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Extra Time, Effort and Dedication.
Not every agent is willing to make
that Commitment.

Call me for when You or Your Friends
and Family are ready to Make a Move.

**References available upon Request